

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

|                      |  |                  |               |
|----------------------|--|------------------|---------------|
| <b>Applicant(s):</b> | Toshimasa Kawai, et al.                        | <b>Examiner:</b> | Unassigned    |
| <b>Serial No:</b>    | To be assigned                                 | <b>Art Unit:</b> | Unassigned    |
| <b>Filed:</b>        | Herewith                                       | <b>Docket:</b>   | 16843         |
| <b>For:</b>          | APPARATUS FOR DECIDING<br>POSITION OF TRACTION | <b>Dated:</b>    | July 15, 2003 |

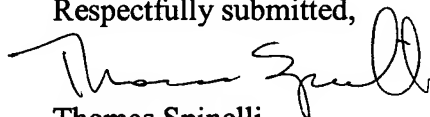
Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**CLAIM OF PRIORITY**

Sir:

Applicants in the above-identified application hereby claim the right of priority in connection with Title 35 U.S.C. § 119 and in support thereof, will submit in due course a certified copy of Japanese Patent Application No. 2002-205265 filed July 15, 2002.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas Spinelli

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TS:cm

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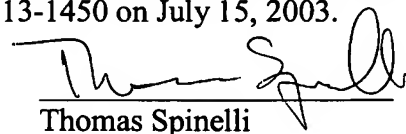
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Dated: July 15, 2003



Thomas Spinelli